

Issuance Date: January 26, 2006  
Effective Date: March 1, 2006  
Expiration Date: February 28, 2011

STATE WASTE DISCHARGE PERMIT NUMBER ST-5394

STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY  
Eastern Regional Office

In compliance with the provisions of the  
State of Washington Water Pollution Control Law  
Chapter 90.48 Revised Code of Washington, as amended,  
authorizes

Steptoe Sewer District #1

P.O. Box 126

Steptoe, WA 99174

to discharge wastewater in accordance with the special and general conditions which follow.

Plant Location:

Southwest of the town of Steptoe, adjacent to  
the boundary of the sewer district and  
immediately west of State Hwy 195

Discharge Location:

Legal Description : SE ¼ NW ¼ of Section 2,  
T.18 N., R.43 E.W.M.

Treatment Type

Two-cell, non-overflow earthen lined lagoons

Latitude: 47° 00' 04" N

Longitude: 117° 21' 15" W

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James M. Bellatty  
Water Quality Section Manager  
Eastern Regional Office

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### SUMMARY OF PERMIT REPORT SUBMITTALS

Refer to the Special and General Conditions of this permit for additional submittal requirements.

Permit Section	Submittal	Frequency	First Submittal Date
S3.A.	Discharge Monitoring Report	monthly	April 15, 2006
S3.A.	Water Quality monitoring from wells identified in report due June 1, 2006	quarterly	July 1, 2006
	Report locating and identifying the state of the water quality monitoring wells around the lagoons	1/permit cycle	June 1, 2006
	Certified Operator (application/renewal)	once/year	April 15, 2007 and December 31 <sup>st</sup> every year after
	Exam	once	June 7, 2007
G8.	Application for permit renewal	1/permit cycle	August 30, 2010

## SPECIAL CONDITIONS

### S1. DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS

All discharges and activities authorized by this permit shall be consistent with the terms and conditions of this permit. The discharge of any of the following pollutants more frequently than, or at a concentration in excess of, that authorized by this permit shall constitute a violation of the terms and conditions of this permit.

Beginning on the effective date and lasting through the expiration date of this permit, the Permittee is authorized to

EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	
Parameter	Average Monthly <sup>a</sup>
Flow	30,300 gpd
<sup>a</sup> The average monthly effluent limitation is defined as the highest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar month, calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar month divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that month.	

## S2. MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

### A. Wastewater Monitoring

The sampling point for the influent will be at the pump station immediately proceeding lagoon #1. The sampling point for the effluent from the above ground treatment works will be at the end of pipe discharging into the second lagoon.

The Permittee shall monitor the wastewater according to the following schedule:

Parameter	Units	Sample Point	Sampling Frequency	Sample Type
Flow	Gallons/day	Pump station	Daily <sup>1</sup>	total
BOD	mg/l	Lagoon#1 influent	January 1, 2006 April 1, 2006 July 1, 2006 October 1, 2006 January 1, 2007 April 1, 2007 July 1, 2007 October 1, 2007	8hr manual composite <sup>2</sup>
TKN (as N)	mg/l	Lagoon #1	January 1, 2006 April 1, 2006 July 1, 2006 October 1, 2006 January 1, 2007 April 1, 2007 July 1, 2007 October 1, 2007	Grab
Lagoon depth	Feet	Lagoon #1	January 1, 2006 April 1, 2006 July 1, 2006 October 1, 2006 January 1, 2007 April 1, 2007 July 1, 2007 October 1, 2007	Staff gauge
Sludge depth	inches	Lagoon #1	January 1, 2006 April 1, 2006 July 1, 2006 October 1, 2006 January 1, 2007 April 1, 2007 July 1, 2007 October 1, 2007	Sludge depth with a Sludge Judge®

C. Ground Water Monitoring

The sampling points for ground water will be determined upon completion of well report on June 1, 2006. The Permittee shall monitor the ground water according to the following schedule:

Parameter	Units	Monitoring Well	Sampling Frequency	Sample Type
Iron (Total)	mg/l	TBD	July 1, 2006 July 1, 2007	Grab
Calcium		TBD	July 1, 2006 July 1, 2007	
Magnesium		TBD	July 1, 2006 July 1, 2007	
Potassium		TBD	July 1, 2006 July 1, 2007	
Sodium		TBD	July 1, 2006 July 1, 2007	
Manganese		TBD	July 1, 2006 July 1, 2007	
Calcium		TBD	July 1, 2006 July 1, 2007	
Magnesium		TBD	July 1, 2006 July 1, 2007	
pH	Standard Units	TBD	July 1, 2006 July 1, 2007	Grab
Conductivity	Micromho/cm	TBD	July 1, 2006 July 1, 2007	Grab
Bicarbonate	mg/l	TBD	July 1, 2006 July 1, 2007	Grab
Carbonate		TBD	July 1, 2006 July 1, 2007	
Total Coliform	CPU/100 ml	TBD	July 1, 2006 October 1, 2006 January 1, 2007 April 1, 2007 July 1, 2007 October 1, 2007	Grab
Water Level	To nearest 0.01 Feet MSL	TBD	July 1, 2006 October 1, 2006 January 1, 2007 April 1, 2007 July 1, 2007 October 1, 2007	Measurement
Temperature	°C	TBD	July 1, 2006 October 1, 2006 January 1, 2007 April 1, 2007	Measurement

Parameter	Units	Monitoring Well	Sampling Frequency	Sample Type
			July 1, 2007 October 1, 2007	
Chloride		TBD	July 1, 2006 October 1, 2006 January 1, 2007 April 1, 2007 July 1, 2007 October 1, 2007	
Fluoride		TBD	July 1, 2006 October 1, 2006 January 1, 2007 April 1, 2007 July 1, 2007 October 1, 2007	
Sulfate		TBD	July 1, 2006 October 1, 2006 January 1, 2007 April 1, 2007 July 1, 2007 October 1, 2007	
Total Dissolved Solids		TBD	July 1, 2006 October 1, 2006 January 1, 2007 April 1, 2007 July 1, 2007 October 1, 2007	
NO <sub>3</sub> (as N)		TBD	July 1, 2006 October 1, 2006 January 1, 2007 April 1, 2007 July 1, 2007 October 1, 2007	
TKN (as N)		TBD	July 1, 2006 October 1, 2006 January 1, 2007 April 1, 2007 July 1, 2007 October 1, 2007	



F. Sampling and Analytical Procedures

Samples and measurements taken to meet the requirements of this permit shall be representative of the volume and nature of the monitored parameters, including representative sampling of any unusual discharge or discharge condition, including bypasses, upsets and maintenance-related conditions affecting effluent quality.

Ground water sampling shall conform to the latest protocols in the *Implementation Guidance for the Ground Water Quality Standards*, (Ecology 1996).

Sampling and analytical methods used to meet the water and wastewater monitoring requirements specified in this permit shall conform to the latest revision of the *Guidelines Establishing Test Procedures for the Analysis of Pollutants* contained in 40 CFR Part 136 or to the latest revision of *Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater* (APHA), unless otherwise specified in this permit or approved in writing by the Department of Ecology (Department).

Sludge monitoring requirements specified in this permit shall be conducted according to test procedures specified in 40 CFR Part 503.

G. Flow Measurement

Appropriate flow measurement devices and methods consistent with accepted scientific practices shall be selected and used to ensure the accuracy and reliability of measurements of the quantity of monitored flows. The devices shall be installed, calibrated, and maintained to ensure that the accuracy of the measurements are consistent with the accepted industry standard for that type of device. Frequency of calibration shall be in conformance with manufacturer's recommendations and at a minimum frequency of at least one calibration per year. Calibration records shall be maintained for at least three years.

H. Laboratory Accreditation

All monitoring data required by the Department shall be prepared by a laboratory registered or accredited under the provisions of, *Accreditation of Environmental Laboratories*, Chapter 173-50 WAC. Flow, temperature, settleable solids, conductivity, pH, and internal process control parameters are exempt from this requirement. Conductivity and pH shall be accredited if the laboratory must otherwise be registered or accredited.

**S3. REPORTING AND RECORDKEEPING REQUIREMENTS**

The Permittee shall monitor and report in accordance with the following conditions. The falsification of information submitted to the Department shall constitute a violation of the terms and conditions of this permit.

A. Reporting

Monthly Reporting Frequency

The first monitoring period begins on the effective date of the permit. Flow monitoring results shall be submitted monthly. Monitoring data obtained during the previous month shall be summarized and reported on a form provided, or otherwise approved, by the Department, and be received no later than the 15th day of the month following the completed reporting period, unless otherwise specified in this permit. Priority pollutant analysis data shall be submitted no later than 45 days following the reporting period. The report(s) shall be sent to the Department of Ecology, 4601 N. Monroe, Spokane, Washington 99205-1295.

Discharge Monitoring Report forms must be submitted monthly whether or not the facility was discharging. If there was no discharge or the facility was not operating during a given monitoring period, submit the form as required with the words "no discharge" entered in place of the monitoring results.

Quarterly Reporting Frequency

The first quarterly monitoring period begins on July 1, 2006. Dates thereafter are; October 1, 2006; January 1, 2007; April 1, 2007; July 1, 2007; and October 1, 2007. Monitoring results shall be submitted quarterly. Monitoring results obtained during the previous three (3) months shall be reported on the monthly forms as provided, or otherwise approved, by the Department, and be received no later than the 15th day of the month following the completed reporting period, unless otherwise specified in this permit. Priority pollutant analysis data shall be submitted no later than 45 days following the reporting period. The report shall be sent to the Department of Ecology, Eastern Regional Office, 4601 North Monroe Street, Spokane, Washington, 99205-1295.

Discharge Monitoring Report forms must be submitted quarterly whether or not the facility was discharging. If there was no discharge or the facility was not operating during a given monitoring period, submit the form as required with the words "no discharge" entered in place of the monitoring results.

B. Records Retention

The Permittee shall retain records of all monitoring information for a minimum of three years. Such information shall include all calibration and maintenance records and all original recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for this permit. This period of retention shall be extended during the course of any unresolved litigation regarding the discharge of pollutants by the Permittee or when requested by the Director.

The Permittee shall retain all records pertaining to the monitoring of sludge for a minimum of five years.

C. Recording of Results

For each measurement or sample taken, the Permittee shall record the following information: (1) the date, exact place and time of sampling; (2) the individual who performed the sampling or measurement; (3) the dates the analyses were performed; (4) who performed the analyses; (5) the analytical techniques or methods used; and (6) the results of all analyses.

D. Additional Monitoring by the Permittee

If the Permittee monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by this permit using test procedures specified by Condition S2. of this permit, then the results of this monitoring shall be included in calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the Permittee's self-monitoring reports.

E. Noncompliance Notification

In the event the Permittee is unable to comply with any of the permit terms and conditions due to any cause, the Permittee shall:

1. Immediately take action to stop, contain, and cleanup unauthorized discharges or otherwise stop the violation, and correct the problem;
2. Repeat sampling and analysis of any violation and submit the results to the Department within 30 days after becoming aware of the violation;
3. Immediately notify the Department of the failure to comply; and
4. Submit a detailed written report to the Department within thirty days, unless requested earlier by the Department, describing the nature of the violation, corrective action taken and/or planned, steps to be taken to prevent a recurrence, results of the resampling, and any other pertinent information.

Compliance with these requirements does not relieve the Permittee from responsibility to maintain continuous compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit or the resulting liability for failure to comply.

F. Maintaining a Copy of This Permit

A copy of this permit shall be kept at the treatment plant and be made available to the public or Ecology inspectors.

**S4. FACILITY LOADING****A. Design Criteria**

Flows or waste loadings of the following design criteria for the permitted treatment facility shall not be exceeded:

Average flow for the maximum month: 30,300 gpd

BOD<sub>5</sub> loading for maximum month: 47 lbs/day

TSS loading for maximum month: 47 lbs/day

**B. Plans for Maintaining Adequate Capacity**

When the actual flow or wasteload reaches 85 percent of any one of the design criteria in S4.A. for three consecutive months, or when the projected increases would reach design capacity within five years, whichever occurs first, the Permittee shall submit to the Department, a plan and a schedule for continuing to maintain capacity at the facility sufficient to achieve the effluent limitations and other conditions of this permit. This plan shall address any of the following actions or any others necessary to meet this objective.

1. Analysis of the present design including the introduction of any process modifications that would establish the ability of the existing facility to achieve the effluent limits and other requirements of this permit at specific levels in excess of the existing design criteria specified in paragraph A above.
2. Reduction or elimination of excessive infiltration and inflow of uncontaminated ground and surface water into the sewer system.
3. Limitation on future sewer extensions or connections or additional wasteloads.
4. Modification or expansion of facilities necessary to accommodate increased flow or wasteload.
5. Reduction of industrial or commercial flows or waste loads to allow for increasing sanitary flow or wasteload.

Engineering documents associated with the plan must meet the requirements of WAC 173-240-060, "Engineering Report," and be approved by the Department prior to any construction. The plan shall specify any contracts, ordinances, methods for financing, or other arrangements necessary to achieve this objective.

**S5. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

The Permittee shall at all times be responsible for the proper operation and maintenance of any facilities or systems of control installed to achieve compliance with the terms and conditions of the permit.

A. Certified Operator

By June 7, 2007, an operator certified for at least a Class I plant by the State of Washington shall be in responsible charge of the day-to-day operation of the wastewater treatment plant. By June 7, 2007, an operator certified for at least a Class I plant shall be in charge during all regularly scheduled shifts.

B. Short-term Reduction

If a Permittee contemplates a reduction in the level of treatment that would cause a violation of permit discharge limitations on a short-term basis for any reason, and such reduction cannot be avoided, the Permittee shall give written notification to the Department, if possible, 30 days prior to such activities, detailing the reasons for, length of time of, and the potential effects of the reduced level of treatment. This notification does not relieve the Permittee of their obligations under this permit.

C. Electrical Power Failure

The Permittee is responsible for maintaining adequate safeguards to prevent the discharge of untreated wastes or wastes not treated in accordance with the requirements of this permit during electrical power failure at the treatment plant and/or sewage lift stations either by means of alternate power sources, standby generator, or retention of inadequately treated wastes.

D. Prevent Connection of Inflow

The Permittee shall strictly enforce their sewer ordinances and not allow the connection of inflow (roof drains, foundation drains, etc.) to the sanitary sewer system.

E. Bypass Procedures

The Permittee shall immediately notify the Department of any spill, overflow, or bypass from any portion of the collection or treatment system.

The bypass of wastes from any portion of the collection or treatment system is prohibited unless one of the following conditions (1, 2, or 3) applies:

1. Unavoidable Bypass -- Bypass is unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage. "Severe property damage" means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the treatment facilities which would cause them to become inoperable, or substantial and permanent loss of natural resources which can reasonably be expected to occur in the absence of a bypass.

If the resulting bypass from any portion of the treatment system results in noncompliance with this permit the Permittee shall notify the Department in accordance with condition S3.E "Noncompliance Notification."

2. Anticipated Bypass That Has The Potential to Violate Permit Limits or Conditions -- Bypass is authorized by an administrative order issued by the Department. The Permittee shall notify the Department at least 30 days before the planned date of bypass. The notice shall contain a description of the bypass and its cause; the duration of the bypass, including exact dates and times; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the bypass. The Department will consider the following prior to issuing an administrative order:
  - a. If the bypass is necessary to perform construction or maintenance-related activities essential to meet the requirements of the permit.
  - b. If there are feasible alternatives to bypass, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, maintenance during normal periods of equipment down time, or transport of untreated wastes to another treatment facility.
  - c. If the bypass is planned and scheduled to minimize adverse effects on the public and the environment.

After consideration of the above and the adverse effects of the proposed bypass and any other relevant factors, the Department will approve or deny the request. The public shall be notified and given an opportunity to comment on bypass incidents of significant duration, to the extent feasible. Approval of a request to bypass will be by administrative order issued by the Department under RCW 90.48.120.

3. Bypass for Essential Maintenance without the Potential to Cause Violation of Permit Limits or Conditions - Bypass is authorized if it is for essential maintenance and does not have the potential to cause violations of limitations or other conditions of the permit, or adversely impact public health as determined by the Department prior to the bypass.

## **S6. RESIDUAL SOLIDS**

Residual solids include screenings, grit, scum, primary sludge, waste activated sludge and other solid waste. The Permittee shall store and handle all residual solids in such a manner so as to prevent their entry into state ground or surface waters. The Permittee shall not discharge leachate from residual solids to state surface or ground waters.

## **S7. PRETREATMENT**

The Permittee shall work cooperatively with the Department to ensure that all commercial and industrial users of the wastewater treatment system are in compliance with pretreatment regulations.

A. Discharge Authorization Required

Significant commercial or industrial operations shall not be allowed to discharge wastes to the Permittee's sewerage system until they have received prior authorization from the Department in accordance with Chapter 90.48 RCW and Chapter 173-216 WAC, as amended. The Permittee shall immediately notify the Department of any proposed new sources of wastewater from significant commercial or industrial operations.

B. Prohibitions

A non-domestic discharger may not introduce into the Permittee's sewerage system any pollutant(s) that cause pass through or interference.

The following non-domestic discharges shall not be discharged into the Permittee's sewerage system.

1. Pollutants that create a fire or explosion hazard in the domestic wastewater facilities (including, but not limited to waste streams with a closed cup flashpoint of less than 140 degrees Fahrenheit or 60 degrees Centigrade using the test methods specified in 40 CFR 261.21).
2. Pollutants that will cause corrosive structural damage to the domestic wastewater facilities, but in no case discharges with pH lower than 5.0 standard units or greater than 11.0 standard units, unless the works are specifically designed to accommodate such discharges.
3. Solid or viscous pollutants in amounts that could cause obstruction to the flow in sewers or otherwise interfere with the operation of the POTW.
4. Any pollutant, including oxygen demanding pollutants, (BOD, etc.) released in a discharge at a flow rate and/or pollutant concentration which will cause interference with the POTW.
5. Heat in amounts that will inhibit biological activity in the POTW resulting in interference, but in no case heat in such quantities such that the temperature at the POTW exceeds 40°C (104°F) unless the Department, upon request of the Permittee, approves, in writing, alternate temperature limits.
6. Petroleum oil, non-biodegradable cutting oil, or products of mineral origin in amounts that will cause interference or pass through.
7. Pollutants which result in the presence of toxic gases, vapors, or fumes within the POTW in a quantity which may cause acute worker health and safety problems.
8. Any trucked or hauled pollutants, except at discharge points designated by the Permittee.

9. As provided by WAC 173-303-071(3)(a), discharges of dangerous wastes into the sewerage system by industrial or commercial users are prohibited unless the discharger has submitted an application for a State Waste Discharge Permit. The applicant must accurately describe the wastewater on a State Waste Discharge Permit Application for Industrial Discharges to a POTW (Ecology Form 040-177).
10. Noncontact cooling water in significant volumes.
11. Stormwater, and other direct inflow sources.
12. Wastewaters significantly affecting system hydraulic loading, which do not require treatment or would not be afforded a significant degree of treatment by the system.

C. Notification of Industrial User Violations

The Permittee shall notify the Department if any non-domestic user violates the prohibitions listed in S7.B above.



## **GENERAL CONDITIONS**

### **G1. SIGNATORY REQUIREMENTS**

All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Department shall be signed as follows:

- A. All permit applications shall be signed by either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official.
- B. All reports required by this permit and other information requested by the Department shall be signed by a person described above or by a duly authorized representative of that person. A person is a duly authorized representative only if:
  - 1. The authorization is made in writing by the person described above and is submitted to the Department at the time of authorization, and
  - 2. The authorization specifies either a named individual or any individual occupying a named position.
- C. Changes to authorization. If an authorization under paragraph B.2. above is no longer accurate because a different individual or position has responsibility for the overall operation of the facility, a new authorization must be submitted to the Department prior to or together with any reports, information, or applications to be signed by an authorized representative.
- D. Certification. Any person signing a document under this section shall make the following certification:

"I certify under penalty of law, that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system or those persons directly responsible for gathering information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations."

### **G2. RIGHT OF ENTRY**

Representatives of the Department shall have the right to enter at all reasonable times in or upon any property, public or private, for the purpose of inspecting and investigating conditions relating to the pollution or the possible pollution of any waters of the state. Reasonable times shall include normal business hours; hours during which production, treatment, or discharge occurs; or times when the Department suspects a violation requiring immediate inspection. Representatives of the Department shall be allowed to have access to, and copy at reasonable cost, any records required to be kept under terms and conditions of the permit; to inspect any monitoring equipment or method required in the permit; and to sample the discharge, waste treatment processes, or internal waste streams.

**G3. PERMIT ACTIONS**

This permit shall be subject to modification, suspension, or termination, in whole or in part by the Department for any of the following causes:

- A. Violation of any permit term or condition;
- B. Obtaining a permit by misrepresentation or failure to disclose all relevant facts;
- C. A material change in quantity or type of waste disposal;
- D. A material change in the condition of the waters of the state; or
- E. Nonpayment of fees assessed pursuant to RCW 90.48.465.

The Department may also modify this permit, including the schedule of compliance or other conditions, if it determines good and valid cause exists, including promulgation or revisions of regulations or new information.

**G4. REPORTING A CAUSE FOR MODIFICATION**

The Permittee shall submit a new application, or a supplement to the previous application, along with required engineering plans and reports, whenever a new or increased discharge or change in the nature of the discharge is anticipated which is not specifically authorized by this permit. This application shall be submitted at least 60 days prior to any proposed changes. Submission of this application does not relieve the Permittee of the duty to comply with the existing permit until it is modified or reissued.

**G5. NOTIFICATION OF NEW OR ALTERED SOURCES**

The Permittee shall submit written notice to the Department whenever any new discharge or increase in volume or change in character of an existing discharge into the sewer is proposed which: (1) would interfere with the operation of, or exceed the design capacity of, any portion of the collection or treatment system; (2) would increase the total system flow or influent waste loading by more than 10 percent; (3) is not part of an approved general sewer plan or approved plans and specifications; or would be subject to pretreatment standards under 40 CFR Part 403 and Section 307(b) of the Clean Water Act. This notice shall include an evaluation of the system's ability to adequately transport and treat the added flow and/or wasteload.

**G6. PLAN REVIEW REQUIRED**

Prior to constructing or modifying any wastewater control facilities, an engineering report and detailed plans and specifications shall be submitted to the Department for approval in accordance with Chapter 173-240 WAC. Engineering reports, plans, and specifications should be submitted at least 180 days prior to the planned start of construction. Facilities shall be constructed and operated in accordance with the approved plans.

**G7. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS AND STATUTES**

Nothing in the permit shall be construed as excusing the Permittee from compliance with any applicable federal, state, or local statutes, ordinances, or regulations.

**G8. DUTY TO REAPPLY**

The Permittee must apply for permit renewal at least 180 days prior to the specified expiration date of this permit.

**G9. PAYMENT OF FEES**

The Permittee shall submit payment of fees associated with this permit as assessed by the Department. The Department may revoke this permit if the permit fees established under Chapter 173-224 WAC are not paid.

**G10. PENALTIES FOR VIOLATING PERMIT CONDITIONS**

Any person who is found guilty of willfully violating the terms and conditions of this permit shall be deemed guilty of a crime, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of up to ten thousand dollars and costs of prosecution, or by imprisonment in the discretion of the court. Each day upon which a willful violation occurs may be deemed a separate and additional violation.

Any person who violates the terms and conditions of a waste discharge permit shall incur, in addition to any other penalty as provided by law, a civil penalty in the amount of up to ten thousand dollars for every such violation. Each and every such violation shall be a separate and distinct offense, and in case of a continuing violation, every day's continuance shall be and be deemed to be a separate and distinct violation.